

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as indicated below.

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1. (Currently Amended) A method for ~~a business to securely distribute~~  
distributing document folders to recipients, said method comprising the steps of:

temporarily storing ~~sending~~ an electronic document folder sent from a  
sending device, the electronic document folder comprising at least one document to a  
~~network of interconnected computers;~~

notifying ~~each a~~ recipient of that an electronic document folder is ~~folders~~  
intended for said recipient by providing ~~means of giving said recipient~~ an indirect reference  
to ~~each the~~ electronic document folder intended for said recipient;

selecting a destination location for ~~each the~~ recipient to receive the  
electronic document ~~folders~~ folder intended for said recipient, using based on data  
provided by said recipient, the data including information with regard to the destination  
location for the recipient; and

accumulating the ~~sent~~ temporarily stored electronic document folder ~~folders~~  
at ~~said the selected~~ destination location.

2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the data provided  
by ~~each the~~ recipient is selected from the group consisting of ~~comprising~~ document  
reception address data and additional document reception data.

3. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein the document reception address data comprises at least one of path information and a method for network document folder delivery.

4. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein the additional document reception data comprises at least one of receiving device capabilities and document reception location data.

9. 5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the indirect reference to ~~each~~ the electronic document folder comprises a folder code containing information needed to retrieve the electronic document folder.


6. (Original) The method of claim 5, wherein the folder code is a privacy code.

7. (Original) The method of claim 5, wherein the folder code is mediocard data, said mediocard data delivered to each recipient prior to said recipient's accessing an electronic document folder.

8. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of modifying the data for best recipient use with regard to capabilities of a receiving device at said destination location.

9. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of a server ~~located on the network of interconnected computers~~ recording an ~~acknowledgement~~ acknowledgment of a delivery of an electronic document folder and making said acknowledgment available to a sender.

10. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of a recipient retrieving an electronic document folder based upon providing information contained in said indirect reference.

 11. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of authenticating at least some documents within the electronic document folders.

12. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 11, wherein the authenticating step comprises a seal engine attaching a seal to at least one document within ~~an~~ the electronic document folder.

13. (Original) The method of claim 12, wherein the attached seal comprises information contained in the at least one document and information not contained in the at least one document.

14. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 13, wherein the information not contained in the at least one document comprises at least one selected from the group

consisting of ~~comprising~~ a date of transmission, a time of transmission, a protocol identification, information known only by an intended recipient, and a file size.

15. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein at least one document within a sent document folder has a printable representation.

16. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein at least one document folder comprises exactly one document.

Q 1 17. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the electronic document folders are sent using virtual private network security.

18. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of charging a recipient upon the recipient's taking delivery of an electronic document folder when the electronic document folder has been sent C.O.D.

19. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of charging a recipient upon the recipient taking delivery of an electronic document folder when the electronic document folder has been stored on ~~the~~ a network beyond an agreed-upon period of time.

20. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of a recipient specifying a date of expiration of an electronic document folder temporarily stored on ~~the~~ a network.

21. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the step of notifying each recipient comprises sending a notification via email.

22. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the step of notifying each recipient comprises sending a notification over a cellular phone.

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23. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of converting a sent electronic document folder into a page description language before sending a link to the electronic document folder to a recipient.

24. (Currently Amended) A system for ~~a business to securely distribute~~ distributing document folders to recipients, said system comprising:

at least one sending device for sending an electronic document folder to a server, the electronic document folder comprising at least one document;

at least one server for to and temporarily storing the sent electronic document folder, and for selecting a destination computer for the recipient to receive the electronic document folder intended for ~~the~~ recipient based on data provided by the recipient, the data including information with regard to the destination computer for the recipient;

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at least one destination computer for accumulating the electronic document folder ~~folders~~ that ~~have~~ has been sent from said server ~~to the network of interconnected computers~~; and

coupled to each destination computer, a receiving device for delivering the electronic document folder ~~folders~~ to recipients the recipient.

25. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 24, further comprising a notification device for notifying a the recipient of a the sent electronic document folder, by ~~means of providing~~ an indirect reference to the electronic document folder, ~~said notification device from the group comprising a Web-enabled personal computer, a Web-enabled Internet appliance, and a cellular telephone.~~

26. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 24, wherein ~~said~~ a network connects said server and destination computer and said network is selected from the group consisting of ~~of interconnected computers~~ is from the group comprising the Internet, an intranet, a wide-area network, and a local area network.

27. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 24, wherein the at least one sending device is selected from the group consisting of ~~comprising~~ a scanner, a facsimile machine, and a computer.

28. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 24, wherein the receiving device is selected from the group consisting of ~~comprising~~ a Web-enabled personal

computer, a Web-enabled printer, a Web-connected digital copier, and a Web-enabled Internet appliance.

29. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 24, wherein the at least one destination computer is located at a partnership facility having a pre-established business relationship with the business system.

30. (Currently Amended) The system of ~~claim 24~~ claim 26, further comprising an administrative subsystem coupled to the network ~~of interconnected computers~~ for managing system resources based on requests of senders and recipients of electronic document folders.

31. (Original) The system of claim 30, further comprising a billing subsystem coupled to the administrative subsystem for detecting monetizing events and charging at least one of a sender and a recipient upon the occurrence of a monetizing event.

32. (Original) The system of claim 31, further comprising a billing database coupled to the billing subsystem for maintaining and adjusting accounts of senders and recipients based on information received from the billing subsystem.

33. (Original) The system of claim 31, wherein a monetizing event is sending an electronic document folder.

34. (Original) The system of claim 31, wherein a monetizing event is sending an electronic document folder C.O.D.

35. (Original) The system of claim 31, wherein a monetizing event is temporarily storing an electronic document folder on the network beyond an agreed-upon period of time.

36. (Original) The system of claim 31, wherein a monetizing event is a recipient requesting that a sent electronic document folder be authenticated.

37. (Currently Amended) The system of ~~claim 24~~ claim 26, further comprising a seal engine coupled to the network of interconnected computers for attaching a seal to at least one document within an electronic document folder.

38. (Currently Amended) A computer readable medium containing a computer program product for ~~a business to securely distribute~~ distributing document folders to recipients, said computer program product comprising:

program code for temporarily storing an ~~causing the sending of~~ electronic document ~~folders to a network of interconnected computers~~ folder sent from a sending device, the electronic document folder comprising at least one document;

program code for notifying a recipient ~~of a sent~~ that an electronic document folder ~~by means of is intended for said recipient by providing~~ an indirect reference to the electronic document folder;



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program code for selecting a destination computer for ~~an~~ the electronic document folder ~~using~~ based on data provided by a the recipient, the data including information with regard to the destination computer for the recipient; and

program code for ~~accumulating sent~~ sending the electronic document folder ~~to folders at the~~ selected destination computer.

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